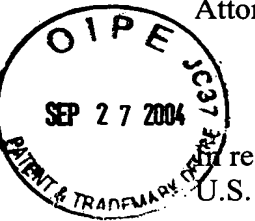


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2625



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. application: Daisaku HORIE
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
U.S. Serial No.: 10/044,503
Filed: January 10, 2002
Confirmation No.: 9303
Group Art Unit: 2625
Examiner: Yon Jung Couso

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

September 22, 2004

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Signature

September 22, 2004

Date of Signature

REQUEST FOR STATUS OF PENDING APPLICATION

Although this application was filed on January 10, 2002, the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) database indicates that as of September 22, 2004, a first Office Action has not been issued for this case.

The undersigned attorney of record respectfully requests the Examiner to advise when it is anticipated that a first Office Action will be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

Douglas A. Sorensen
Registration No. 31,570
Attorney for Applicant

DAS/rb
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP
717 North Harwood, Suite 3400
Dallas, Texas 75201-6507
(214) 981-3482 (Direct)
(214) 981-3300 (Main)
(214) 981-3400 (Facsimile)
September 22, 2004